



# MASSACHUSETTS CATCH & KEEP FRESHWATER SPORTFISHING AWARD AFFIDAVIT

A Massachusetts sportfishing award pin will be issued to qualified anglers who catch and report a freshwater fish which equals or exceeds the minimum weight for the species listed on the reverse side of this form, provided any such angler has conformed to the rules of the program. Those catching the largest fish in each category during each calendar year will be recognized at an annual award ceremony.

**ALL items on this form MUST be filled out. Please print clearly.**

Angler's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(number & street / box number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(town, state & zip code)

Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
area code

Fish Species: \_\_\_\_\_ Weight: \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. \_\_\_\_\_ ozs.

Fish Length: \_\_\_\_\_ Girth: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Catch: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Tackle: \_\_\_\_\_ Bait/Lure: \_\_\_\_\_

Where Caught: \_\_\_\_\_  
(name of waterbody) (city / town of waterbody)

I hereby swear, under the pains and penalties of perjury, that the above statements are true, that this entry complies with all rules on the reverse side, that this fish was caught in a legal manner in Massachusetts.

Angler's Signature (parent's signature if under 18): \_\_\_\_\_

Fishing/Sporting License Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name & Address Where Fish Was Weighed: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number Where Fish Was Weighed: \_\_\_\_\_

Scale Certification Seal Date (Month & Year): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Witness: \_\_\_\_\_ Witness Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments on the Catch (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

# Catch & Keep Program Rules and Eligibility

1. All legally licensed anglers are eligible for the Massachusetts Freshwater Sportfishing Awards.
2. Anglers aged 17 or under are eligible for Youth Sportfishing Awards (see minimum weights below).
3. Fish must be taken from waters within the state of Massachusetts (or the interstate ponds listed in the Guide to Hunting, Fishing and Trapping) **that are open to the public at all times**. This rule does not apply to the Wachusett or Quabbin Reservoirs, or other public bodies of water which are closed on a seasonal basis.
4. Fish taken from waters which are not open to the public at all times (such as private ponds or sporting club ponds) are NOT eligible for awards.
5. Fish must be caught on hook and line, except carp, which may also be taken with spears or bow and arrow.
6. Fish must be weighed on a scale certified by the Massachusetts Division of Standards or a town official (this includes personal scales) and a witness other than the angler must view the weighing.
7. A clear, side view, close-up photograph of the fish must be included with all affidavits. In addition to a side view photo, all affidavits for catfish and bullheads must also include a full body, dorsal (back) view of the fish (see website for example). If there is any question of species identification, the fish should be kept frozen whole until identification is confirmed by a fisheries biologist at MassWildlife Field Headquarters in Westborough or at any of the five MassWildlife District offices.
8. All potential state record fish must be presented in their entirety (whole) to qualified fisheries personnel at MassWildlife Field Headquarters in Westborough or at any of the five MassWildlife District offices.
9. It is the angler's responsibility to provide MassWildlife with completed affidavits and required photos. *Note: All affidavits must be postmarked no later than January 10th of the following year.*
10. All photographs or images associated with the program, including those submitted by anglers and those taken by agency personnel, become the property of MassWildlife. Names of anglers, photographic or videographic images may be used in agency publications, promotional materials, or for other non-commercial uses.
11. MassWildlife reserves the right to change or modify the program rules at any time. All decisions of MassWildlife are final.

## MINIMUM WEIGHTS TO QUALIFY FOR AN AWARD

|                   | Adult          | Youth          |                   | Adult          | Youth          |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Bowfin            | 6 lbs. 0 ozs.  | 4 lbs. 0 ozs.  | Northern Pike     | 15 lbs. 0 ozs. | 10 lbs. 0 ozs. |
| Brook Trout       | 2 lbs. 0 ozs.  | 1 lb. 0 ozs.   | Rainbow Trout     | 3 lbs. 0 ozs.  | 2 lbs. 0 ozs.  |
| Brown Trout       | 4 lbs. 0 ozs.  | 2 lbs. 0 ozs.  | Shad              | 5 lbs. 0 ozs.  | 3 lbs. 0 ozs.  |
| Bullhead          | 2 lbs. 0 ozs.  | 1 lb. 0 ozs.   | Smallmouth Bass   | 4 lbs. 8 ozs.  | 3 lbs. 0 ozs.  |
| Carp              | 15 lbs. 0 ozs. | 10 lbs. 0 ozs. | Sunfish*          | 0 lb. 12 ozs.  | 0 lb. 8 ozs.   |
| Chain Pickerel    | 4 lbs. 8 ozs.  | 3 lbs. 0 ozs.  | Tiger Muskellunge | 10 lbs. 0 ozs. | 7 lbs. 0 ozs.  |
| Channel Catfish   | 6 lbs. 0 ozs.  | 5 lbs. 0 ozs.  | Tiger Trout       | 2 lbs. 0 ozs.  | 1 lb. 0 ozs.   |
| Crappie/Calico    | 1 lb. 8 ozs.   | 1 lb. 0 ozs.   | Walleye           | 4 lbs. 0 ozs.  | 2 lbs. 0 ozs.  |
| Lake Trout        | 7 lbs. 0 ozs.  | 5 lbs. 0 ozs.  | White Catfish     | 4 lbs. 0 ozs.  | 2 lbs. 0 ozs.  |
| Landlocked Salmon | 4 lbs. 0 ozs.  | 3 lbs. 0 ozs.  | White Perch       | 1 lb. 8 ozs.   | 1 lb. 0 ozs.   |
| Largemouth Bass   | 7 lbs. 0 ozs.  | 4 lbs. 0 ozs.  | Yellow Perch      | 1 lb. 8 ozs.   | 1 lb. 0 ozs.   |

\* Sunfish category includes Bluegill, Pumpkinseed, Redbreast Sunfish, Green Sunfish, and Rock Bass.

**If there is ANY question concerning the identification of the species,  
the fish should be presented in its entirety to a MassWildlife office.**

Questions? Call us at 508-389-6300 any  
weekday from 8:00 A.M. – 4:30 P.M. or visit  
[www.mass.gov/masswildlife](http://www.mass.gov/masswildlife)

**Send completed affidavits and photos to:**

Effective 09/16

**Sportfishing Awards Program**  
Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife  
1 Rabbit Hill Road  
Westborough, MA 01581